

# WASHINGTON.

"Liberty and Union, now and forever, one and inseparable."

TUESDAY, JULY 15, 1851.

## SENATOR KING'S LETTER.

The experience in political life of the Senator from Alabama, exceeded in length by that of very few public men, together with the temperance of speech which he habitually brings to the discussion of public affairs, would of themselves entitle whatever opinions Mr. Senator King deliberately utters on questions arising out of them to serious and respectful consideration; and when, in addition, we consider his present position, as, by the choice of that body, Presiding Officer of the Senate, and, by the act of Providence, second only in station to the President of the United States, it seems due to our readers that any such discourse, from his lips or pen, on these subjects, is entitled to a place in the National Intelligencer.

We have therefore inserted in another part of this paper a recent Letter from that gentleman on the questions mooted in the public discussions of his own State. We have the greater satisfaction in doing this, because his Letter effectively corrects the error of the first telegraphic account of its contents, which represented the honorable Senator as having given in his adhesion to the Revolutionist (Disunionist) party. He has, as the reader will discover, done no such thing. A true Southerner, he stands up for the rights of his People; but he gives no sanction to Quixotic enterprises such as would substitute for the ballot-box and legislative action the law of force—the arbitrament of the sword and the bayonet.

We think it proper to state, as we are authorized to do, that there is no truth in the story circulating through the papers that Mr. WEBSTER has resigned the office of Secretary of State, either absolutely or contingently.

Mr. WEBSTER's health is now perfectly good—better than it has been for a long time; but he naturally looks forward with concern to that period of the year in which he is, and has been for several years, visited with a distressing catarrh, or the disease which is commonly called in England and in this country the hay fever. This is periodical, and comes on in August. He suffered much last year from the necessity of spending the hottest part of the summer in the Senate, and until he took charge of the Department of State, which he could not leave until some time after Congress had adjourned. He hopes by travel and by change of climate to mitigate, if not avert, the attack of his unwelcome visitor the present season. Some of his medical friends have advised a sea voyage, and others a visit to the medicinal springs in the Alleghenies of Western Virginia. Mr. WEBSTER has doubtless said that if he should finally conclude to adopt the former course, it would probably lead to the necessity of his leaving the Department. This, we believe, states the whole case in regard to the honorable Secretary's intentions; and this it is, we presume, out of which has sprung the rumor of his resignation.

The SECRETARY OF STATE, accompanied by his family, left this city last evening for Annapolis, to take passage thence in the steamer "Golden Gate" for New York, from whence he will proceed to his residence in Massachusetts, where it is expected he will remain some weeks, if matters of public exigency shall not in the mean time require his presence at the seat of Government.

**SOUTH CAROLINA.**—Opposition to separate secession is said to be rapidly on the increase in this State. J. D. WITHERSPOON, Senator from York; C. W. DUDLEY, Senator from Marlborough; and D. J. McCORD, an eminent lawyer of Columbia, and son-in-law of Langdon Cheves, have written strong letters against the policy of separate State action. They regard a withdrawal from the Union as eminently dangerous to Southern institutions, and destructive of the commercial prosperity of the State.

The Montgomery (Alabama) Journal, a very decided Union paper, speaking of the Letter of Mr. Senator KING, published in this journal yesterday, says that the Letter is, in most respects, a good one, but that it is faulty in the excessive and ill-timed party feeling which it displays, and especially in its animosity to the organization of a Southern Union party. The Editor protests, and with great force, against the honorable Senator's idea of falling back upon the Democratic party organization as a means of maintaining and guarding the rights of the South.

"We do not believe," says the Editor, "that fanaticism and ultraism can be crushed, and the rights of the South safe in the Union, except by the active organization generally of the Union men throughout the whole country. The idea of falling back on the Democracy, or any other party, for this purpose, is a strange as well as futile one. It is the boast of the Democracy that it has held the control of the Federal Government for nine-tenths of the time for the last thirty years. It was during this period, it will be recollected, that the abolition aggressions complained of have been growing and increasing. Why, then, can Democracy stop it? It will be recollected that it was a Democratic ex-President who first gave power and respectability to the Free-Soil movement by the Buffalo platform. A Southern Democratic President first gave credence to the power of Congress to legislate to prohibit slavery in the common territory. We will further recollect that it was a Democratic Congress that passed the act which annexed these Free-soil Territories of Mexico, and admitted California, &c. All this shows the fallacy of relying on a party, the professed progressive and radical party, for justice to the South on this subject. We, in saying this, wish to make no invidious distinctions; it would be the same with all parties."

The Baltimore Patriot, in speaking of the rumored resignation of Mr. WEBSTER, alludes to the suspense caused by the silence of the Washington press on the subject. We can assure our respected contemporary that the Washington press would have little else to do if it should attempt to correct even one-half of the erroneous reports that are sent off from this city to entertain the readers of newspapers in distant places. The number of such fabrications is incredible, though few of them are ever exposed, because it is only those of general importance that sufficiently attract the public attention to deserve notice.

## THE GARDINER CLAIM.

Having on the subject of this claim against Mexico no information but what the newspapers furnish, and finding ourselves in this respect precisely in the position of the "Union," our contemporary in this city, of desiring truth and justice to prevail in the result of the investigation, we adopt its introduction to the subjoined Letter, which we find in its columns.

FROM "THE UNION" OF YESTERDAY.

**THE GARDINER CLAIM.**—We have seen for two weeks past in our exchanges notices of this claim, and charges of fraud with respect to it. We have also seen statements purporting to present the substance of evidence given before the grand jury in this city, which holds its sessions in secret. It is commendable in a public journal to use every exertion to give early information of matters of public concern; but we have not that degree of vanity which can induce us, in order to get ahead of our contemporaries, to give currency to grave charges, unless we have some knowledge of the foundation on which such charges rest. We know nothing of Doctor Gardiner, and nothing but what we have gathered from common rumor as to the justice of his claim. The matter is now, we understand, undergoing a legal investigation. In the mean time we shall have nothing to say about it; but we feel that we are doing nothing more than a simple act of justice in publishing and calling attention to the following letter of J. C. Gardiner, Esq., a brother of Doctor Gardiner, which embodies a translation of a note written by Mr. Port, whose name has been used in most, if not all, the statements impeaching Doctor Gardiner's integrity and the claim which he has been paid:

WASHINGTON, JULY 12, 1851.

To the Editor of the Union: Sir: I hope you will, through your paper of to-morrow, allow the earliest opportunity that can be afforded to me on my return to this city, to contradict the unfounded and slanderous reports which have been circulated during the temporary absence of my brother, Dr. G. A. GARDINER, in relation to the award made in his favor by the Board of Commissioners under the treaty with Mexico.

It has been alleged that Mr. Port had stated that my brother had confessed or declared that he had obtained his award by false or forged evidence. Mr. Port, who is now in this city, utterly and indignantly denies this allegation, as will be seen from the following letter, addressed by him to me, and which I received on my arrival here, and of which I give a literal translation, to wit:

"NEW YORK, JULY 8, 1851.

"DEAR SIR: I have just returned from the country, where I have passed a few days on a pleasure excursion; and great has been my surprise on learning through a friend that what has been published in the newspapers in reference to your brother's claim and a conversation held with me."

"I think it my duty to declare to you, without any loss of time, that every thing asserted as coming from me is a base falsehood, and any person of common sense can easily perceive it; because who could suppose your brother capable of making me a disclosure so unfavorable to his reputation and person? As regards myself, I am incapable of supposing things to injure my fellow-men, and much less would I do so with persons whom I esteem and who honor me with their friendship. With this assurance, you are at liberty to make any use you may deem proper of this letter; and believe me to be, as ever, your friend, who esteems you."

"J. A. PORT.

"To J. CARLOS GARDINER, Esq., Washington."

Any statements or speculations prejudicial to my brother's reputation, or to the validity of his claim, may be very soon and very easily contradicted or explained. While I court a full investigation of the subject in behalf of my brother, I may also hope that the public will give no credence to slanderous and idle reports in regard to him. My brother will return in a few weeks from Europe, where he has gone on a short visit, and will, I have no doubt, be prepared to protect his reputation, however or by whomsoever assailed. Very respectfully, your ob't servant,

J. CARLOS GARDINER.

**A WHOLESOME TRUTH.**—The Selma (Ala.) "Southern Enterprise," a paper neutral in politics, but chiefly devoted, as its name implies, to the encouragement and advancement of Southern improvements, pertinently remarks:

"If men who go to sleep murmuring 'Southern Rights,' and in their morning yawns draw out 'Southern Rights,' and name their children 'Southern Rights,' would devote a little of their attention to the development of Southern resources, they would soon have 'rights' that would maintain themselves."

**INDIAN DISTURBANCES.**—An express arrived in Milwaukee on the 5th instant from the United States Indian Agent, requesting the attendance of a small force at the Indian Council to be held in Dodge county on the 7th. The Indians had congregated in the neighborhood to the number of several hundred, and were committing serious depredations. These Indians emigrated to Minnesota last year, under a treaty with Government, but, being dissatisfied, have returned.

The venerable Dr. NOTT, now in the 97th year of his age, was present at the celebration at Hartford (Conn.) on the 4th instant, and closed the services in the Church by pronouncing the benediction.

The Springfield Post says that there are living in the town of Lunenburg, (Mass.) at the present time, forty-eight persons who were living when the Declaration of Independence was made. Several of them are over ninety years old. The entire population of the town is but 1,300.

## CLERICAL POLITICIANS.

A writer in the Boston Transcript, after commenting upon some of Theodore Parker's vehement political tirades from the pulpit, concludes with the following paragraph upon the subject of political preaching:

"What clergyman ever solemnized, and purified, and elevated the thoughts of his hearers by preaching about politics? Men may listen submissively to the most powerful denunciation of their sins; but no man will admit his political opinions to fall within this category. A parish in which all are of one political mind is very rarely to be found. How much nearer to Paradise does a political preacher advance his congregation by these unconnected efforts? Let him take a summary view of his parishioners at the close—what a sum he holds? Upon the countenances of some he beholds the marks of carnal exultation and triumph; upon the countenances of others the manifestations of hatred and revenge, malice and all uncharitableness; and then he spreads his arms, and rolls up his eyes, and supplicates that the peace of God, which passeth all understanding, may fill the hearts of his people, a portion of whom are ready for three cheers, while the remainder are ready to fight."

**SOUTH CAROLINA SECESSION FLAG.**—A mammoth white flag was suspended from one of the windows of the office of the Charleston Mercury on the 4th instant, on which appeared a lone star, and a rattlesnake with its head erect at the foot of a palmetto tree, as if about to strike. A portion of the military dress up before the office, presented arms, and gave three cheers for the flag of South Carolina!

**ACQUITTAL OF THE MORMONS.**—The telegraph brings intelligence that James J. Strang, the self-styled "King of the Earth," and the rest of the Beaver Island Mormons, were indicted with him for obstructing the United States mail and other offenses, have been promptly acquitted. The jury, probably, gave no credence to the witnesses for the prosecution, who were chiefly Mormon seceders, and personal enemies of the accused. The parties, however, will remain under indictment for depredations upon Government lands, and for making counterfeit coin of the United States, and, in which indictment they will be tried at the Autumn term, and, in the mean time, the prisoners will be at large upon bail.

[N. Y. Com. Advertiser.]

## THE LATE ARMY COURT-MARTIAL.

It was with pain we heard of the result of the Court-Martial lately held in this city; which has, in the opinion of that Court and in that of the President of the United States, required the dismission of Gen. TALCOTT from the Army. In the "Union" of yesterday morning we find the Official General Order announcing this fact to the Army, of which the finding of the COURT and the decision of the PRESIDENT thereon seems to be all that is now necessary to copy, (the Charges having been heretofore inserted in our columns.)

## FINDING AND SENTENCE OF THE COURT.

After mature deliberation on all the evidence adduced, the Court finds the accused, Brevet Brigadier General GEORGE TALCOTT, Colonel of the Ordnance Department, as follows:

CHARGE I.

Specification, "guilty," and "guilty" of the charge.

CHARGE II.

Specification, "guilty," and "guilty" of the charge.

CHARGE III.

1st specification, "guilty," except the words therein, "and had previously reported to the Secretary of War."

2d specification, "not guilty."

3d specification, "guilty."

4th specification, "guilty."

5th specification, "guilty."

6th specification, "guilty."

7th specification, "guilty."

And "guilty" of the charge.

SENTENCE.

And the Court does sentence him, Brevet Brigadier General GEORGE TALCOTT, Colonel of the Ordnance Department, "to be dismissed the service."

II. In conformity with the 65th of the rules and articles of war, the proceedings of the General Court-Martial in the foregoing case have been transmitted to the President of the United States.

The following is the decision thereon:

EXECUTIVE MANSION, JULY 8, 1851.

The foregoing proceedings of the Court-Martial for the trial of Brevet Brigadier General George Talcott having been laid before me, and having been by me duly examined and considered, I hereby confirm the same.

MILLARD FILLMORE.

III. Brevet Brigadier General George Talcott accordingly ceases to be an officer of the army from this date.

In reviewing these proceedings the PRESIDENT has seen with regret, and feels constrained to notice, the irregularity and negligence which, throughout the transaction in which they originated, characterized the conduct of Brevet Colonel Huger, commander of the Fort Monroe Arsenal. The confidence naturally reposed by him in the head of his corps (frankly and undoubtedly some apology for his course, but cannot justify it).

THE PRESIDENT deems it proper, particularly, to express his disapprobation of all private correspondence on official business. Such a practice not only prevents the preservation of a distinct and intelligible record of any transaction, so indispensable in a Government where public agents are liable to be frequently changed, but is incompatible with the admitted accountability of every officer employed in the disbursement of public moneys.

IV. The General Court-Martial, of which Brevet Major General Twigg is President, is dissolved.

By command of the President:

R. JONES, Adjutant General.

## THE SIOUX INDIANS OF MINNESOTA.

The Minnesota "Pioneer" of the 3d instant announces the arrival at that place of the Hon. LUKE LEA, the Commissioner of Indian Affairs, who had gone thence to Traverse des Sioux, about one hundred miles up the Minnesota river, to make a treaty with the Sioux Indians, whose chiefs and braves had already assembled for that purpose. Governor RAMSEY, of Minnesota, is an associate Commissioner with Mr. LEA. The "Pioneer" expresses its confidence that a treaty will be made without difficulty. The country proposed to be purchased from the Sioux embraces all the lands watered by the tributaries of the Mississippi, and extending two hundred miles west of that river. These lands are said to be very valuable, embracing a country full of game and heavy timber, and delightful prairies and rich bottom lands. After the conclusion of this treaty, it is the intention of the Commissioners to make a treaty with another band of the Sioux, who are to assemble for that purpose at a village some twenty-five miles above the mouth of the Minnesota river.

## THE REPUBLIC OF HAYTI.

There is published from this island a world of nonsense, which seems to be manufactured here, for what purpose, however, it is difficult to tell. The facts, however, we are assured, on good authority, are these:

SOUVERAINE, the black Emperor of Hayti, recently sent, and in good faith, two thousand men under the command of one of his generals to the frontiers of Dominica, to notify the people there of the truth that existed, according to the understanding between the commissioners of France, England, and the United States, and him, the Emperor; but the black general at the head of these two thousand men, without authority, and to the sore displeasure of Souveraine, so it is said and believed, finding the frontier town of Galeta entirely undefended and unprotected, was seized with an irresistible passion for military glory, and he took the town, established his military domination over it, and pronounced it "conquered." The Dominicans, enraged by this act, soon mustered in force and beat off the Haytiens, with some killed and wounded on the Haytian side.

That Souveraine did not intend an invasion is shown by the fact that he sent only 2,000 men, when he had some 10,000 men at his disposal, and that at this time of year military operations are not carried on in Hayti.

The commissioners, it is said, will renew their efforts to bring about a permanent peace as soon as the autumn comes. It is highly desirable that this petty war should cease, not only for the sake of humanity, but for the sake of trade and commerce.—N. Y. Express.

**EXPLORATION.**—An excursion from St. Louis to the mouth of Milk river, sixty miles above the mouth of the Yellow Stone, has been projected at the West. The steamer "Robert Campbell" has been chartered for the trip, and is to go as much further beyond the express terminus of the voyage as she can run. The distance from St. Louis by water to the mouth of Milk river is 2,260 miles.

**HENRY GIBSON,** a survivor of Gen. Washington's Life Guard attended the celebration at Newburgh, (New York.) This aged veteran completed his 100th year on the 15th of February last, but still retains his strength and recollection in a remarkable degree—the reward of a temperate and well-spent life. He was in the battle of Princeton, Trenton, and Yorktown, and was with Washington during his encampment at Newburgh.

**FAST TRAVELLING.**—A gentleman of Missouri has lately made the trip from New York to St. Louis in four days and seventeen hours. He went upon the New York and Erie railroad to Dunkirk, where he took the steamer to Cleveland, thence to Cincinnati, and thence by steamer to St. Louis. The regular time from New York to Cincinnati is forty hours. When the eastern line of railway is completed from St. Louis to Cincinnati, the trip to New York will be made in less than three days.—Evening Post.

**STONES FOR THE WASHINGTON MONUMENT.**—Mr. Hugh Sisson, of Baltimore, is just finishing a block of marble prepared to the order of the Maryland Grand Lodge of Odd Fellows, and designed as a contribution to the Washington National Monument. The block is of large size, a fine specimen of Maryland marble, and bears on its front, beautifully sculptured, the American eagle, of life-like proportions, and bearing aloft the national crest, surrounded by the insignia of the Order of Odd Fellowship.

The Grand Band of the Independent Order of United Brothers have also authorized Messrs. Baughman to prepare for them an elegant stone, designed as their contribution to the Washington Monument.

William Britton, a young man residing with his mother in West Philadelphia, was on Wednesday shot accidentally by an elder brother, recently returned from the South. The affair took place in the room of the young man, while examining a pair of pistols, one of which was loaded.

## POSTAGE TO CHAGRES, PANAMA, CALIFORNIA, AND OREGON.

We are requested to call the particular attention of postmasters to the rates of postage on letters to California and Oregon; and also to the foreign places (Chagres and Panama) on the route to California.

In rating letters for California and Oregon, it must be borne in mind that these countries now form a part of the United States, and are of course entitled to the advantage of the domestic rates, according to the official "tables of postages within the United States" recently sent to postmasters throughout the country. Hence we are authorized to say that the single rate to California or Oregon (the distance being over 3,000 miles) is six cents prepaid, and ten cents unpaid. On newspapers and other printed matter sent to California or Oregon, the domestic rates also of course apply.

But to Chagres and Panama (foreign) the letter postage must be rated under that clause in the law specifying letters to be "conveyed wholly or in part by sea, and to or from a foreign country." Therefore the single-letter postage to either Chagres or Panama is ten cents, if the distance from the mailing office is under 2,500 miles, and twenty cents if the distance is over 2,500 miles; in both cases to be prepaid where the letter is sent from, and collected when received in, the United States. To either of these places, from New York, we are informed that the distance exceeds 2,500 miles; from all the Southern ports the distance is less than 2,500 miles.

As the law on these points appears, at first sight, a little doubtful, and is therefore liable to misconstruction, we think that Editors of papers generally would do a public service by calling special attention to the subject.

Mr. W. W. CORCORAN, of this city, in a letter transmitting fifty dollars, bearing date on the 4th of July instant, to the General Agent, expresses his intention to contribute the like sum on each coming 4th of July for the WASHINGTON NATIONAL MONUMENT until the said Monument shall be completed. This act, of which we are informed by the respected General Agent, is in accordance with the spirit of Mr. CORCORAN's liberal donations for public objects and private beneficence, and will be duly appreciated by a discerning Public.

The conduct of our PRESIDENT has been such (says the Petersburg (Va.) Intelligencer) as to win praises from the mouths of political foes as well as friends. We published the other day a complimentary toast given to him at the Slash Cottage on the fourth, and we clip to-day the following regular toast, which was drunk at Accomac Court-house on the same day. Both these entertainments were participated in by Whigs and Democrats, and the toasts to Mr. Fillmore are the tributes of hearts grateful for distinguished public services:

"11th. THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES—A true man in a great crisis. Honor to the Patriot who defines sectional feeling and party clamor, that he may do his whole duty to his whole country."

Judge SPRAGUE, of the United States District Court, Massachusetts, went to England in the packet-ship Daniel Webster, which sailed on Monday.

## AUGUST ELECTIONS.

Elections will take place in the States of Kentucky, Indiana, Alabama, Arkansas, Missouri, Illinois, and Iowa on the 4th of August, and in North Carolina and Tennessee on the 7th of August. Kentucky is to choose a Governor, Lieutenant Governor, Legislature, and ten members of Congress. The election in Alabama is for Governor, Legislature, and seven members of Congress. In Arkansas a member of Congress is to be elected. Missouri, Illinois, and Iowa have already chosen their Congressional delegations. This year they have simply to elect local and judicial officers. North Carolina will choose nine members of Congress. In Tennessee the election is for Governor, Legislature, and eleven members of Congress.

The most lamentable catastrophe of the death of Mr. FROST, at New Orleans, in a duel a few days ago, grew out of a discussion which ought to have had no personality about it, being a simple question amongst political friends as to who would make the most eligible candidate of their party and their district for a seat in Congress. The gentleman who was killed was the Editor of the New Orleans "Crescent," and his antagonist was Doctor THOMAS HUNT, Brother of Col. THEOD. G. HUNT, a Member of the Bar, who had been named by his friends as a fit person to be run for Congress, and was warmly opposed by the deceased, as well in his newspaper as in a public meeting.

**IMPORTANT CORRECTION.**—We observe that some of the papers, misled no doubt by the identity of name borne by the existing Commissioner of Indian Affairs and the late Indian agent for the Fort Leavenworth agency, gave out that the former had recently died of injuries received by a fall from his horse since his arrival in Minnesota. A little more attention would have prevented the mistake. Letters were received at the Indian Bureau the day before yesterday from Mr. Commissioner LEA, from St. Paul, Minnesota, which report him well, and busily employed upon the business which took him to the West.

Gov. HUNT, of New York, has vetoed a bill to incorporate the Madison Association, with power to hold and convey real estate to the amount of fifty lots, and to erect a hotel. Gov. Hunt says, in his message, that there is no necessity for any charter or special privilege to enable the company to carry on the business which they propose, and that the precedent may be a bad one.

**MR. BRACE, THE PRISONER OF AUSTRIA.**—A letter to the New York Independent mentions that what confirmed the suspicions of the Austrian Government in the case of this young gentleman was that, when arrested, he had upon his person a copy of Pulsky's "Rights of Hungary," and a letter of introduction from one of the Hungarian patriots. Mr. CLEGG, private secretary to Mr. McCORD, the American Chargé at Vienna, writing to a friend, expresses full confidence that Mr. Brace will be released, and adds that in a very few days he expects to joke him about his arrest.—N. Y. Com. Adv.

A Telegraph despatch has already announced his release.

**ROBBING THE MAIL.**—Peter B. Hoge, the son of the Postmaster at Scottville, was arrested on Friday last, on a charge of robbing the mail, and is now in jail in Charlottesville. He is only about sixteen years of age, though he has had the management of the office at Scottville for three years past, his father being engaged in teaching school. It seems that great complaint has been made of the irregularities of that office for some time, and there has been a suspicion that all was not right. Last week the Post Office Department sent on a mail agent to look into the matter, who found money upon Hoge which had been marked and put in a letter for the express purpose of detecting him. Several hundred dollars besides were found upon his person.

[Petersburg (Va.) Intelligencer.]

"SO DIES A WAY-ALONG THE SHORE."—A Government train of Potawatomi Indians from Michigan passed through our streets on Monday. They are the remnant of the tribe on their way to new hunting grounds at the far Northwest. So they pass away. There is something mournful in the sight—the last of that proud and powerful race, broken in spirit and corrupt in blood, passing from shore to shore, towards the last remaining acres of their inheritance by the setting sun. Homestead creation is not for them.

[Kenosha Democrat.]

A small piece of paper or linen, just moistened with turpentine, and put into the wardrobe, will preserve for a long time, and two or three times a year, is said to be a sufficient preservative against moths.

## A WARNING VOICE FROM A PATRIOT OF '76.

The following is the reply to an invitation from the Committee of Arrangements for celebrating the 4th of July at Tammany Hall. We have the pleasure (says the New York Journal of Commerce) of a personal acquaintance with the venerable and excellent writer. PARSON GREENE, of Long Island, is one of the very few who in this city witnessed "the birth of these United States." He was one of those youthful soldiers who formed the hollow square on the ground, now the Bowling Green, within which the Declaration of Independence was first read in 1776, and the freedom and independence of the Colonies proclaimed, amidst the shouts of the assembled troops and the "Liberty Boys" of that glorious period.

Let the warning voice of this pure patriot penetrate the remotest confines of this Union!

HENRYETTA, JULY 3, 1851.

COL. D. E. DELAYAN: The letter from you and your associates, inviting me to join you and the citizens of New York in the celebration of the 4th of July, was handed to me last evening. I am a friend to the festival, and return you my sincere thanks for your respectful invitation. It would give me double pleasure, as I was present when the Declaration was read in the old Park, in your city, on the 4th of July, 1776. I saw and participated in the birth-day of the United States. Gentlemen, I must deny myself the great pleasure on account of age, heat, and lame ankle, and pre-employment. It may, perhaps, be of use for me to say I belonged to the Revolutionary army when the Declaration of our Independence was read for the first time on the 4th of July, 1776, in the Park, which then lay very near the edge of the city. The army rejoiced; and it was loudly proclaimed in every direction "United we stand—divided we fall." The sons of the old patriots should never lose sight of this important sentiment. What sort of a man is he that dare open his mouth or raise his finger against the union of these States? I laugh at poor, crawling, shuffling things should be found, why let him and his companions, if he has any, take their property (we don't want them nor their) and go to Austria or Russia, where they may wear the iron yoke to their satisfaction. If I could stand on a mountain, in the centre of the United States, and extend my voice from the Atlantic to the Pacific ocean, I would cry aloud, "be careful of the Union." "Do nothing to injure the Union," for it is the gift of the God of the Bible. Yes, the gift of the God of the armies of the United States of America—States cemented with the sweat, blood, and property of the fathers of this nation. We live under the only free, generous, wise, and safe Government that exists on the habitable earth. Suffer me to say I was born on the 11th of January, 1760. I joined the army at Roxbury, January, 1774, with a brother older than myself, sided in building the fort on Dorchester Heights, by which the British were driven out of Boston; marched with the army to New York, helped to erect the forts on Brooklyn Heights, was in the battle when the British landed at Throg's Point, which lasted till darkness separated us. Soon after, in the battle of the White Plains, I was one of the party sent to drive the British from the neighborhood of White Marsh, where they were robbing the people of their cattle and their family stores. Here I was severely wounded. I had also a brother wounded; he had eleven ball holes in his outside garments. One only injured him. I was three years in the army; my brother four. He was in the battle at Monmouth; with my way when they took Stony Point by storm. My father was a volunteer for two months, when the British took New York. He also volunteered with fifty-nine, and more from the county of Worcester, Massachusetts, mounting their horses, and aided in capturing Burgoyne with his army.

Gentlemen, you can see why I am so strongly attached to the Union, and why I wish to leave my posterity and my fellow-citizens in a pure unshaken Union. That the celebration of this day may strengthen the union of these United States, let us unite and earnestly beseech our Father in Heaven to pour upon our nation the spirit of peace and love.

I am your fellow-citizen, friend, and servant in the Gospel of the Divine Saviour.

ZACHARIAH GREENE.

Now the Bowling Green.

## NEW YORK LEGISLATURE.

The Legislature of New York closed an extra session of thirty-one days on Friday, the eleventh instant. During the two sessions, occupying altogether a period of four months, there were passed five hundred and forty-eight laws, mostly of a private or local character. Among the great public measures were the acts (heretofore noticed in our columns) to provide for the enlargement of the Erie, Black River, Genesee Valley, and Oswego Canals, which have excited very general discussion throughout the State, and to defeat which some twelve Senators resigned their seats in April last, five of whom were defeated on becoming candidates for re-election.

At the conclusion of the session the Speaker (MR. JOSEPH B. VARNUM) replied to the customary vote of thanks in part as follows:

"The fact that the volume of local and private law, relating to almost every department of life, becomes larger at every session of the Legislature, furnishes striking evidence of the increase of our population and business pursuits, and of the inefficiency of any existing general laws to meet all the varied phases of human transactions; and, while it may excite a just apprehension of hasty and unwise legislation, all experience has shown that it is much easier to comment on this evil than to point out the remedy."

And now we are to separate. Our intercourse with each other on this floor has notwithstanding the unusually important party questions which have occupied our attention, been marked by fewer exhibitions of temper or bitterness of feeling than perhaps might have been expected. And it is to be hoped that we shall carry away with us none but the most agreeable associations.

Political friendships are thought to be ephemeral; but in no position do we learn more of each other's character, in none is honesty of purpose more thoroughly appreciated, than in the halls of legislation, where we see men in almost every position, and influenced by the most varied motives; and personal regard and respect, which is formed with such opportunities to judge, is not soon erased from the memory.

"Though we have been all looking forward with anxiety to this moment, there are few of us who will not at times revert to the excitements of legislative life with a lingering regret; and, should we revisit this spot, memory will gild every object with the tints of the past. These walls, these seats, will recall many scenes in which we have participated, many familiar faces we have been accustomed to salute. A few of those faces will perhaps be here; but the places most of all will be occupied by strangers, and over some the mantle of death will have obscured our view forever."

"Let us mark out for ourselves such a standard of honorable ambition as shall be based upon a conscientious desire to do well our duty by God and our fellow-men, so that those who are to succeed us in these places may have no occasion, for our subsequent careers, to distrust the purity